

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota consistently ranks in the top five states in pounds of honey produced and is home to just under 320,000 colonies in an average year; and,

Whereas, South Dakota typically ranks in the top ten states in production of alfalfa hay, flaxseed, sunflower seed, proso millet, wheat, sorghum corn, and soybeans many benefitting in part due to pollinator species; and,

Whereas, Agriculture is South Dakota's number one industry, generating nearly \$25.6 billion in annual economic activity and employing over 115,000 South Dakotans; and,

Whereas, Pollinator species, such as birds and insects, are essential partners to farmers and ranchers in producing much of our food supply; and,

Whereas, Pollination plays a vital role in the health of our farms, forests, and grasslands which provide forage and habitat contributing to a healthy and diverse ecosystem; and,

Whereas, Pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy biodiverse ecosystems; and,

Whereas, The state of South Dakota has managed wildlife habitats and public lands such as South Dakota forests and grasslands for decades; and,

Whereas, The state of South Dakota provides producers with conservation assistance to promote wise conservation stewardship, including the protection and maintenance of pollinators and their habitats:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of June 19-25, 2017, as

SOUTH DAKOTA POLLINATOR WEEK

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this First Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seventeen.

Dennis Daugaard
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs
Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State